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National Agricultural Statistics Service
Agriculture in Idaho

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Mid-March Prices Received by Farmers

Preliminary indications of prices received by Idaho farmers for the month of March showed increases for dry beans, potatoes, and all wheat. Lower prices were received for all barley, feed barley, and all milk.

For the U.S., the Preliminary All Farms Products Index of Prices Received in March, at 186 percent, based on 1990-92=100, increased 5 points (2.8 percent) from February. Producers received higher prices for soybeans, corn, broilers, and cattle. Lower prices were received for milk, strawberries, snap beans, and lettuce.

Prices Received by Farmers for Selected Commodities, March 2010-March 2011

Commodity	Unit	Idaho			United States			
		March 2011	February 2012	March 2012 ^{1/}	March 2011	February 2012	March 2012	
							Price ^{1/}	% Parity
CROPS:								
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	157.00	210.00	210.00	142.00	198.00	201.00	--
Barley, All	Bu.	4.16	5.82	5.81	4.29	5.39	5.37	44
Feed	Bu.	4.64	4.89	4.85	--	--	--	--
Malting	Bu.	4.08	5.90	--	--	--	--	--
Dry Beans	Cwt.	27.50	45.10	48.00	29.90	46.70	49.00	58
Potatoes ^{2/}	Cwt.	9.35	8.15	8.80	10.74	9.31	9.74	41
Fresh ^{3/}	Cwt.	10.20	7.70	--	14.50	11.05	--	--
Processing	Cwt.	7.70	8.30	--	8.26	8.27	--	--
Wheat, All	Bu.	6.94	6.99	7.29	7.55	7.10	7.24	41
DAIRY:								
Milk, All ^{4/}	Cwt.	18.70	16.90	16.70	20.40	17.70	17.40	37 ^{5/}

1/ Mid-Month. 2/ Average monthly price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed and livestock feed. 3/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock prices. 4/ Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies. 5/ Seasonally adjusted price as percentage of parity price.

United States Price Index Summary Table

Index	March 2011	February 2012	March 2012
Prices Received	173	181	186
Prices Paid	201	209	210
Ratio prices received to prices paid	86	87	89

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Idaho Prospective Plantings for 2012

All wheat planted in Idaho is expected to total 1.34 million acres, down 9 percent from last year. Spring wheat plantings are expected to be 540,000 acres, 16 percent less than last year. Winter wheat seedings, at 780,000 acres, decreased 5 percent from the 2011 crop. Durum wheat seedings are expected to total 15,000 acres, up 4,000 acres from 2011. Idaho farmers intend to seed 350,000 acres of field corn in 2012, unchanged from last year. Barley seedings are expected to total 590,000 acres, up 70,000 acres from last season. Oat seedings are expected to be 80,000 acres, up 14 percent from last year. Dry bean planting intentions increased 37 percent from last year to 130,000 acres. Dry bean estimates include chickpeas, which are grown primarily in North Idaho. Chickpea planting intentions totaled 65,000 acres, up 27 percent from 2011. All hay expected to be harvested, at 1.33 million acres, is down 1 percent from 2011. Sugarbeet plantings are expected to total 183,000 acres, up 4 percent from last year. Lentil acreage is expected to be 33,000 acres, up 18 percent from 2011. Dry edible pea acreage, at 24,000 acres, is expected to be up 50 percent from last year. Austrian winter pea acres are expected to total 8,000 acres, up 2,000 acres from 2011. Canola acres are expected to total 29,000 acres, up 53 percent from 2011.

Nationally, growers intend to plant 95.9 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2012, up 4 percent from last year and 9 percent higher than in 2010. If realized, this will represent the highest planted acreage in the United States since 1937 when an estimated 97.2 million acres were planted. Oat growers intend to plant an estimated 2.86 million acres, up 15 percent from the record low planted last year. Barley producers intend to plant 3.33 million acres for the 2012 crop year, up 30 percent from last year's record low. All wheat producers intend to plant 55.9 million acres for the 2012 crop year, up 3 percent from the previous year. The 2012 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 41.7 million acres, up 3 percent from 2011 but down 1 percent from the Winter Wheat Seedings report. Area seeded to durum wheat is estimated at 2.22 million acres, up 62 percent from 2011. Spring wheat growers intend to plant 12.0 million acres this year, down 3 percent from 2011. Hay producers expect to harvest 57.3 million acres of all hay in 2012, up 3 percent from 2011. Canola producers intend to plant a record high 1.56 million acres in 2012, up 45 percent from 2011. Sugarbeets area planted for the 2012 crop year is expected to total 1.24 million acres, up 1 percent from the previous year. Dry beans growers intend to plant 1.67 million acres in 2012, up 38 percent from last year. Expected area planted for all chickpeas is 184,000 acres, up 38 percent from last year. Lentils area planted for the 2012 crop year is expected to total 518,000 acres, up 21 percent from 2011. Dry edible peas growers intend to plant 619,000 acres, up 71 percent from 2011. Austrian winter peas area planted for the 2012 crop year is expected to total 21,000 acres, up 17 percent from a year ago. Acreage actually planted may vary from those indicated as a result of weather, economic conditions, availability of production inputs and the effect of this report itself.

Planted Acreage 2010-2011 & Planting Intentions March 1, 2012 – Idaho & U.S

CROP	PLANTED		PLANTING	2012/2011
	2010	2011	2012 ^{1/}	
	<i>Thousand Acres</i>			<i>Percent</i>
IDAHO				
All Wheat	1,400.0	1,471.0	1,335.0	91
Winter Wheat	750.0	820.0	780.0	95
Spring Wheat	630.0	640.0	540.0	84
Durum Wheat	20.0	11.0	15.0	136
Corn ^{2/}	320.0	350.0	350.0	100
Oats	70.0	70.0	80.0	114
Barley	490.0	520.0	590.0	113
All Hay ^{3/}	1,470.0	1,350.0	1,330.0	99
Sugarbeets	171.0	176.0	183.0	104
Dry Beans ^{4/}	135.0	95.0	130.0	137
Lentils	55.0	28.0	33.0	118
Dry Edible Peas	31.0	16.0	24.0	150
Austrian Winter Peas	11.0	6.0	8.0	133
Canola	19.5	19.0	29.0	153
UNITED STATES				
All Wheat	53,593.0	54,409.0	55,908.0	103
Winter Wheat	37,335.0	40,646.0	41,709.0	103
Spring Wheat	13,698.0	12,394.0	11,976.0	97
Durum Wheat	2,560.0	1,369.0	2,223.0	162
Corn ^{2/}	88,192.0	91,921.0	95,864.0	104
Oats	3,138.0	2,496.0	2,863.0	115
Barley	2,872.0	2,559.0	3,333.0	130
All Hay ^{3/}	59,872.0	55,633.0	57,348.0	103
Sugarbeets	1,171.9	1,232.8	1,241.3	101
Dry Beans ^{4/}	1,911.4	1,205.9	1,669.9	138
Lentils	658.0	428.0	518.0	121
Dry Edible Peas	756.0	362.0	619.0	171
Austrian Winter Peas	31.2	18.0	21.0	117
Canola	1,448.8	1,071.5	1,557.2	145

1/ Intended plantings in 2011 as indicated by reports from farmers. 2/ Excludes sweet corn. 3/ Area harvested 2009-10, intended for harvest 2011. 4/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.

March 1 Grain Stocks

Idaho's March 1, 2012 stocks of all wheat stored in all positions totaled 41.6 million bushels, up 4 percent from last year. On-farm storage was estimated at 11.5 million bushels, down from last year's 12.5 million bushels. Off-farm stocks, including stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors was estimated at 30.1 million bushels, up 10 percent from March 1, 2011. Barley stocks in all positions totaled 24.1 million bushels, down 10 percent from a year ago. On-farm storage was estimated at 6.00 million bushels, down 8 percent from a year ago. Off-farm storage was estimated at 18.1 million bushels, down 11 percent from last year's 20.3 million bushels.

Nationally, all wheat stored in all positions March 1, 2012 totaled 1.20 billion bushels, down 16 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 217 million bushels, down 25 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 983 million bushels, are down 14 percent from a year ago. Barley stocks in all positions on March 1, 2012 totaled 93.7 million bushels, down 32 percent from March 1, 2011. On-farm stocks are estimated at 26.5 million bushels, 54 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 67.2 million bushels, are 16 percent below March 2011. Oats stored in all positions on March 1, 2012, totaled 72.5 million bushels, 16 percent below the stocks on hand March 1, 2011. Of the total stocks on hand, 19.8 million bushels are stored on farms, down 27 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 52.8 million bushels, down 11 percent from the previous year. Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2012, totaled 6.01 billion bushels, down 8 percent from March 1, 2011. Of the total stocks, 3.19 billion bushels were stored on farms, down 6 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.82 billion bushels, are down 10 percent from a year ago.

Idaho Honey Production Increased 20 Percent

Idaho honey production in 2011 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 3.13 million pounds, a 20 percent increase from 2010. Honey producing colonies are estimated at 87,000 colonies, down 10,000 colonies from last year. Yield per colony averaged 36 pounds, up 9 pounds from 2010. Producer honey stocks were 1.88 million pounds on December 15, 2011, an increase of 59 percent from the previous year. The average honey price per pound was 178.0 cents, up 17 cents from a year ago.

Nationally, honey production in 2011 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 148 million pounds, down 16 percent from 2010. There were 2.49 million colonies producing honey in 2011, down 7 percent from 2010. Yield per colony averaged 59.6 pounds, down 9 percent from the 65.6 pounds in 2010. Colonies which produced honey in more than one State were counted in each State where the honey was produced. Therefore, at the United States level yield per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 36.8 million pounds on December 15, 2011, down 18 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

At the US level, honey prices increased to a record high during 2011 to 172.9 cents per pound, up 7 percent from 161.9 cents per pound in 2010. United States and State level prices reflect the portions of honey sold through cooperatives, private, and retail channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2010 crop reflect honey sold in 2010 and 2011. Some 2010 crop honey was sold in 2011, which caused some revisions to the 2010 crop prices.

Honey: Price by Color Class, United States, 2009-2010

Color Class	Co-op and Private		Retail		All	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	<i>Cents Per Pounds</i>		<i>Cents Per Pounds</i>		<i>Cents Per Pounds</i>	
Water White, Extra White, White	157.5	165.9	297.1	281.0	159.8	169.1
Extra Light Amber	151.1	161.3	266.3	307.6	157.6	168.3
Light Amber, Amber, Dark Amber	148.9	163.9	330.5	340.7	167.0	178.8
All Other Honey, Area Specialties	172.1	180.5	471.4	511.9	208.1	217.1
All Honey	154.1	164.3	311.6	328.4	161.9	172.9

2011 Idaho Farm Numbers Down From 2010

The number of farms and ranches in Idaho in 2011 totaled 24,700, down 500 operations from 2010. Total land in farms in 2011 for Idaho, at 11.4 million acres, was unchanged from 2010. The average size of farm was 462 acres in 2011, up from 452 acres in 2010.

The number of farms in the United States in 2011 is estimated at 2.2 million, down slightly from 2010. Total land in farms, at 917 million acres, decreased 1.85 million acres from 2010. The average farm size is 420 acres, up 1 acre from the previous year.

USDA'S definition of a farm is "any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the year". Government payments are included in sales. Ranches, institutional farms, experimental and research farms, and Indian Reservations are included as farms. Places with the entire acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), or other government programs are counted as farms.

The definition of a farm was first established in 1850 and has changed nine times since. The current definition was first used for the 1974 Census.

U.S. Dairy Products February 2012 Highlights

Total cheese output (excluding cottage cheese) was 858 million pounds, 6.2 percent above February 2011 but 5.8 percent below January 2012.

Italian type cheese production totaled 367 million pounds, 4.5 percent above February 2011 but 7.8 percent below January 2012.

American type cheese production totaled 348 million pounds, 5.7 percent above February 2011 but 6.3 percent below January 2012.

Butter production was 170 million pounds, 13.9 percent above February 2011 but 5.8 percent below January 2012.

Dry milk powders (comparisons with February 2011)

Nonfat dry milk, human - 171 million pounds, up 54.7 percent.

Skim milk powders - 18.2 million pounds, down 49.7 percent.

Whey products (comparisons with February 2011)

Dry whey, total - 89.3 million pounds, up 9.2 percent.

Lactose, human and animal - 80.6 million pounds, up 7.7 percent.

Whey protein concentrate, total - 35.7 million pounds, up 11.9 percent.

Frozen products (comparisons with February 2011)

Ice cream, regular (hard) - 63.0 million gallons, up 1.9 percent.

Ice cream, lowfat (total) - 30.5 million gallons, up 9.3 percent.

Sherbet (hard) - 3.13 million gallons, up 4.2 percent.

Frozen yogurt (total) - 5.29 million gallons, up 20.0 percent.